

Submitter: Jeffery Brown
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3155

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 3155, which seeks to allow all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) to travel on designated highways. This bill stands to offer significant benefits to rural towns, ranches, and remote recreational areas in Oregon.

****Economic Boost to Rural Towns****

Rural towns often face economic challenges due to their remote locations and limited access to major markets. Allowing ATVs on highways would open new opportunities for local businesses. Riders passing through or visiting these towns would frequent local restaurants, stores, and service stations, thereby injecting much-needed revenue into the local economy. Additionally, events and ATV rallies could attract tourists, further stimulating economic growth.

****Support for Ranches and Remote Areas****

For ranchers and residents in remote areas, ATVs are indispensable tools for daily operations. Permitting highway access would facilitate quicker and more efficient transportation of supplies and personnel. This increased mobility would enhance productivity and reduce operational costs for ranchers, thereby supporting the vital agricultural industry in Oregon.

****Safety Improvements****

Currently, many ATV riders must use non-regulated pedestrian walkways or off-road paths, which poses safety risks to both pedestrians and riders. By allowing ATVs to travel on designated highways, we can provide a safer, more structured environment for these vehicles. Proper regulations and signage will help ensure that ATV traffic is well-coordinated, reducing the likelihood of accidents and conflicts with pedestrians.

****Environmental Benefits****

With the growing popularity of electric ATVs, allowing these vehicles on highways can contribute to a reduction in emissions. Electric ATVs produce no tailpipe emissions, making them a cleaner alternative to traditional gasoline-powered vehicles. Encouraging the use of electric ATVs aligns with Oregon's commitment to environmental sustainability and reducing our carbon footprint.

In conclusion, passing House Bill 3155 presents an opportunity to support rural economies, enhance safety, and promote environmentally friendly transportation. I urge the members of the Oregon Legislature to vote in favor of this bill and help pave

the way for a brighter future for our rural communities.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Jeffery Brown
Glide, Oregon